

**Morris County Heritage Commission Minutes
Meeting of July 12, 2013**

Present: Commissioners Larry Fast, Miriam Morris, Kathy Murphy, Elliott Ruga, James Woodruff and Archivist/Acting Director Margaret Shultz.

Absent: Commissioners Epsey Farrell, Kathy Fisher, Bonnie-Lynn Nadzeika, Virginia Vogt, Intern Amanda Hefferan and Freeholder John Krickus.

Call to order: Larry Fast called the meeting to order at the County Cultural Center at 9:39 a.m. He read the Open Meeting Statement.

Minutes: the June minutes were read and approved as corrected with abstention by Commissioner Murphy

Financial report: the monthly budget for 2013 was attached to the meeting package for July 12, 2013. The \$94 from the recycled markers had been moved to the general account, but will be reinstated in the August report. There will be archival expenditures during August.

Freeholder report: No response from the Freeholders.

Chairman's report: attached to the meeting package for July 12, 2013.

- A session from the New Jersey Historic Commission State Conference sparked discussion about the use of QR codes, Augmented Reality and similar emerging technologies that Commissioners should follow with a view to how they might further the MCHC mission.
- Lady Justice: there may be other artifacts at the Court House.

Office Report: attached to the meeting package for July 12, 2013.

- The German Valley marker: Washington Township Historical Society is awaiting approval from the church, because of the proposed change in location.
- Lady Justice: see Condition Assessment and Progress Report attached to the meeting package for July 12, 2013. Janet Foster had communicated that the costs seemed fair and proceeding with a reproduction would also be acceptable. Acting Chairman Shultz noted that the assessment did not identify the woods or the insects or the costs of refurbishing and returning the statue to its original location. The Commissioners expressed concern about Aegis Restauro's storage of the statue, and that paint was removed before carrying out a thorough paint and materials analysis. This may need Section 106 approval. Commissioners agreed that a second and appropriately qualified opinion is advisable and decisions about the near and long term plan for Lady Justice be deferred accordingly.
- Commissioners expressed their sympathy for former Commissioner, Henry Kafel, in the passing of his wife Diane. Acting Director Shultz will send a note for the Morris County Heritage Commission.

Committee reports:

Archives: Jim Woodruff, Chair

- See Archivist/Acting Director's report. No further information.

Grants/Re-grants: Bonnie-Lynn Nadzeika, Chair

- See Archivist/Acting Director's report. No further information.

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Long-Range Plan: Virginia Vogt, Chair

- No further report.
- The Commission will explore the possibilities offered by QR codes.

Marker program: Kathy Fisher, Chair

- See Archivist/Acting Director's report. Ruth Pace is currently cleaning and painting faded markers.

Personnel: James Woodruff, Chair:

- Commissioner Woodruff had filed the midyear personnel report, and thanked Acting Director Shultz for her work.

Public Programs/Exhibits: James Woodruff, Chair:

- See Archivist/Acting Director's report. No further report.

Publications: Elliott Ruga, Chair.

- Commissioner Ruga thanked Chairman Fast, Acting Director Shultz and the publications committee for their work in preparing the summer edition of the Heritage Review.
- Commissioner Morris requested broad communication early in the process regarding the content of the September issue. Acting Director Shultz will be the coordinator with Commissioner Ruga.
- Commissioner Ruga had been in touch with David Mitros regarding *Gone to Wear the Victor's Crown* and this project will be moving forward.

Communications: Secretary Morris passed out notices and newsletters for review.

Old Business:

- In reference to the Archive Room there was a follow up question about the Greystone C.A.C. Building as a possible location for the Heritage Commission offices and archive. This had been rejected. Acting Director, Shultz will look into the protocol for Commissioners or herself to attend a Freeholder work session to speak to the issue.

New Business:

- Commissioner Ruga reported as Vice president of the Morris Township Historical Society that they have received a Certificate of Eligibility to apply to the State and national Register of Historic Places for the Knox Artillery site (on Mendham Avenue). There will be a stakeholders session cosponsored with MCHC, date to be announced.

Adjournment: the meeting was adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Miriam Morris, Secretary

The next Commission meeting will be held on **Tuesday, September 10**, at 9:30 a.m.
Please inform Ms. Shultz if you are unable to attend.